#### **House Committee on Retirement**

Minutes of Meeting 2012 Regular Session March 29, 2012

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Pearson, chairman of the House Committee on Retirement, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. in Committee Room 4, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

#### II. ROLL CALL

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative J. Kevin Pearson, Chairman

Representative Nick Lorusso, Vice Chairman

Representative Frank A. Hoffmann

Representative Paul B. Hollis

Representative Sam Jones

Representative Anthony "Tony" V. Ligi

Representative Jack Montoucet

Representative Edward J. Price

Representative Eugene "Gene" Reynolds

Representative Kirk Talbot

Representative Jeff R. Thompson

#### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Stephanie Little, Committee Attorney

Ms. Malerie Cacibauda, Committee Secretary

Ms. Mattie Franklin, Sergeant at Arms

#### III. DISCUSSION

# **House Bill No. 58 by Representative Pearson**

House Bill No. 58 provides relative to the District Attorneys' Retirement System.

A copy of the witness card to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "1")

Representative Pearson announced that the bill was voluntarily deferred.

Representative Alan Seabaugh

### House Bill No. 5 by Representative Pearson

Representative Pearson presented House Bill No. 5, which provides relative to meetings of state and statewide retirement system boards and committees.

Representative Pearson offered an amendment to apply the same information privileges that exist for board members (including attorney-client privilege) to any staff designated under proposed law and to require staff to maintain the confidentiality of information except to communicate it to his chairman. He offered a motion to adopt the amendments, to which there was no objection. The amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Lorusso, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

Speaking to provide information were Mr. Roy Mongrue, representing the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, 8401 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-1830; and Ms. Tina Grant, representing the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, 8401 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 922-0600.

A copy of the witness cards in opposition to and to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "2")

Representative Price offered a motion to report House Bill No. 5 with amendments, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 5 was reported with amendments by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

# **House Bill No. 19 by Representative Hoffmann**

Representative Hoffmann presented House Bill No. 19, which provides relative to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), allowing retirees rehired as substitute teachers to collect retirement benefits during reemployment under certain circumstances.

Representatives Jones and Hoffmann asked questions and discussed the merits of the bill.

A copy of the witness cards in support of and to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "3")

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to report House Bill No. 19 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 19 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

### House Bill No. 20 by Representative Hoffmann

Representative Hoffmann presented House Bill No. 20, which provides for the payment of benefits to retired members of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana who are rehired as adjunct professors.

A copy of the witness cards in support of and to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "4")

Representative Hoffmann offered a motion to report House Bill No. 20 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 20 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 27 by Representative Arnold**

On behalf of Representative Arnold, Mr. Randy Roche, attorney for the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana, presented House Bill No. 27, which provides relative to retirement and payment of retirement benefits in the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System.

Speaking in support of the bill was Mr. Randy Roche, representing the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana, 12021 Lake Sherwood Ave. South, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 933-2727.

A copy of the witness cards in support of and to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "5")

Representative Pearson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 27 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 27 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

## **House Bill No. 29 by Representative Pearson**

Mr. Randy Roche, attorney for the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana, presented House Bill No. 29, which provides relative to the payment of disability benefits for members of the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System, for Representative Pearson.

Representative Pearson asked questions and discussed the merits of the bill.

Speaking in support of the bill was Mr. Randy Roche, representing the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana, 12021 Lake Sherwood Ave. South, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, cell: (225) 933-2727.

A copy of the witness cards in support of and to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "6")

Representative Pearson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 29 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 29 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

### House Bill No. 38 by Representative Jones

Representatives Jones and Montoucet presented House Bill No. 38, which provides relative to certain rehired retirees.

Representatives Jones, Montoucet, and Talbot asked questions and discussed the merits of the bill.

Speaking to provide information was Ms. Maris LeBlanc, representing the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, 8401 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809.

Speaking in opposition was Mr. Bob Rust, representing the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana.

A copy of the witness cards to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "7")

Representative Jones offered a set of amendments to require that the employee identify the retirement systems from which he is receiving benefits and that the employing agency notify its retirement system of receipt of such benefits, to provide that such notice from the employing agency triggers the system-to-system notification otherwise required by proposed law, and to provide that application of proposed law shall not be considered a violation of any trustee's fiduciary duty. Representative Jones offered a motion to adopt the amendments, to which there was no objection. The amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

After further discussion of the bill, Representative Jones announced he was voluntarily deferring the bill.

### House Bill No. 39 by Representative Montoucet

Representative Montoucet and Mr. Robert E. Tarcza, Firefighters' Retirement System, presented House Bill No. 39, which provides relative to federal tax qualification requirements for the Firefighters' Retirement System.

Speaking in favor was Mr. Robert E. Tarcza, representing the Firefighters' Retirement System, 228 St. Charles Ave., Ste. 1310, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 525-6696.

A copy of the witness cards in support of and to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "8")

Representative Montoucet offered a motion to report House Bill No. 39 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 39 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

### House Bill No. 41 by Representative Pearson

Ms. Debbie Hudnall, Louisiana Clerks of Court Association, and Mr. Robert E. Tarcza, Firefighters' Retirement System, presented House Bill No. 41, which provides relative to the federal tax qualification status of the system, for Representative Pearson.

Representative Pearson asked questions and discussed the merits of the bill.

Speaking in favor were Mr. Robert E. Tarcza, representing the Firefighters' Retirement System, 228 St. Charles Ave., Ste. 1310, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 525-6696; and Ms. Debbie D. Hudnall, 11745 Brickson Ave., Ste. B-1, Baton Rouge, LA 70816, (225) 293-1162.

A copy of the witness cards in opposition to and to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "9")

Representative Talbot offered a motion to report House Bill No. 41 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 41 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

#### House Bill No. 50 by Representative Pearson

Representative Pearson and Mr. Robert E. Tarcza, Firefighters' Retirement System, presented House Bill No. 50, which provides relative to the Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund.

Speaking in favor was Mr. Robert E. Tarcza, representing the Firefighters' Retirement System, 228 St. Charles Ave., Ste. 1310, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 525-6696.

A copy of the witness cards in support of and to provide information for the bill is attached. (See Exhibit "10")

Representative Price offered a motion to report House Bill No. 50 favorably, to which there was no objection. House Bill No. 50 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Hoffmann, Hollis, Jones, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Pearson, Price, Reynolds, Talbot, and Thompson voted yea.

# IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business for discussion.

# V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

### VI. ADJOURNMENT

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| VI. ADJOURNMENT                         |
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| The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m. |
| Respectfully submitted,                 |
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|   |
| J. Kevin Pearson, Chairman              |
| Date approved:                          |